

Town of Rowe

Board of Selectmen Minutes

Tuesday, July 28, 2020 –3:00 p.m. VIA TELECONFERENCE

This meeting will be held via video conference, consistent with Gov. Baker's temporary modifications to Open Meeting Law due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board of Selectmen:

Chair Charles Sokol, Selectman Joanne Semanie

Absent:

Selectman Ed Silva

Administrative Staff:

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary, Paul McLatchy III, Administrative

Assistant to the Boards

Other Attendees:

Board of Health Chair Margaret Rice, Rowe Camp and Conference Center

Director Benjamin Werner

Audience of Citizens:

None

Call to Order: Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M., a quorum of the board present via remote participation.

MOTION: Roll call vote to call to order:

<u>Chair Sokol:</u> <u>yes</u>
<u>Silva:</u> <u>absent</u>
Vice-Chair Semanie: yes

Covid Discussion: The following points/topics were addressed during discussion:

Board of Health Chair Maggie Rice provided the following updates:

- The Library would be opening this week for limited by appointment only.
- No news for the Park.
- Town Hall was operating by appointment only and it was working fine.
- The Town Nurse would be available only on August 10th and 26th as she has retired and there is no replacement yet.
- The School was meeting still in the planning stages for reopening Rowe Elementary School in the fall and how to proceed safely. The playground was open for children accompanied by parents wearing masks and social distancing.
- It was noted that a grant had been acquired by Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) for personal protective equipment and she was unsure of who was responsible for picking up the equipment since there is currently no Emergency Management Director.
- Chair Rice said the plans for the vaccine flu clinics conducted were progressing with a drive up for Charlemont and Hawley residents on September 26th and for Heath, Colrain and Rowe on October 3rd at the former Heath School building.

- Chair Rice said the Nurse position to fill with the retirement of Sheila Litchfield is still
 ongoing as an applicant did not accept the position offered, however, Sheila will continue
 to perform the flu clinics.
- There was discussion about notifying town employees of the State of Mass travel order starting on August 1, 2020 which stated that people had to quarantine or receive negative Covid testing in the event of traveling to a high-risk state. It was agreed to notify all town departments of the decision.

MOTION TO SEND COVID-19 ORDER NO. 45 TO EMPLOYEES: Following discussion, Chair Sokol made a motion to send Covid-19 Order no. 45 to all town employees:

"If any town employee is subject to a state-mandated quarantine period, that employee may not return to in-person work until the quarantine period has ended as provided in COVID-19 Order No. 45."

The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie.

Roll call vote: Chair Sokol- yes Vice-Chair Semanie-yes
Selectman Silva-absent (vote: 2-0-0)

- Chair Rice reported that the Mosquito District that Rowe joined reported that the samples of mosquitos collected this far had tested negative for Eastern Equine Encephalitis.
- Paul McLatchy III said he would be asking the Board of Selectmen to approve holding the State primary election in the Fire Station to meet the Covid-19 guidelines.
- Ben Werner, Director of Rowe Camp and Conference Center reported that there is no programming at the Camp.

Adjournment:

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie.

Roll call vote: Chair Sokol- yes Vice-Chair Semanie-yes
Selectman Silva-absent (vote: 2-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary Approval Date:

Approved:

Chuck Sokol, Chair

Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair

Documents:

- Agenda July 28, 2020
- Order Instituting a Mandatory 14-Day Quarantine Requirement for Travelers Arriving In Massachusetts – Covid-19 Order No. 45